



City of La Quinta

CITY / SA/ HA/ FA MEETING DATE: September 16, 2014

AGENDA CATEGORY:

ITEM TITLE: ADOPT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND ITS OFFICE OF MILITARY AND DEFENSE SERVICES OPPOSITION TO BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

BUSINESS SESSION:

CONSENT CALENDAR: 8

STUDY SESSION:

PUBLIC HEARING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt a resolution supporting the County of Riverside Board of Supervisors' opposition to the potential closure of the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division, and the March Air Reserve Base.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- The United States Navy's Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division, ("Center") and the March Air Reserve Base ("Base") are major employers and contributors to the region's economy.
- The two military installations are located in Riverside County ("County") and generate an annual payroll of approximately \$1 billion for local workers in the civilian and military workforces.
- The Secretary of Defense has specifically requested that another Base Realignment and Closure Commission be authorized in the near future to close military bases across the nation and around the world.
- The County of Riverside Board of Supervisors and its Office of Military and Defense Services have asked for support for their opposition to a base realignment and/or closure, which would adversely impact the regional economy of the County and its twenty-eight cities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

The Center and Base are both assets to the United States Armed Forces and provide unique missions in support of national security and disaster response that make them ideal national models. The installations employ both a military and civilian workforce, and contribute significantly to the County's economy. Defense Department contracts in the County (combined) resulted in \$5 billion in direct payment from the federal government to 900 small business owners, which in turn created thousands of direct and indirect jobs in the region.

The Secretary of Defense has repeatedly recommended that the Senate and Congress authorize the closing of military bases domestically and abroad. Both installations have been reviewed by prior Base Realignment and Closure Commissions resulting in the Base being reduced to a Reserve Installation. The Center was adversely impacted as well.

The Riverside County Board of Supervisors established the Office of Military and Defense Services to identify strategies for preserving the two remaining military installations and increasing federal contracting opportunities for businesses. They have asked for City support in their endeavors through the attached resolution.

ALTERNATIVES:

City support of the opposition of military base realignment and closure will assist efforts to retain jobs in the County and surrounding region; therefore, staff does not recommend an alternative action.

Report prepared by: Wanda P. Wise-Latta, Executive Assistant

Report approved for submission by: Frank J. Spevacek, City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 2014 -

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA QUINTA, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND ITS OFFICE OF MILITARY AND DEFENSE SERVICES IN OPPOSITION TO BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE AT NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER, CORONA DIVISION AND MARCH AIR RESERVE BASE

WHEREAS, the United States Navy's Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division, and March Air Reserve Base are located in the County of Riverside, California; and

WHEREAS, the United States Navy's Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division, and March Air Reserve Base are major employers in the Southern California Region and a major contributor to the region's economy; and

WHEREAS, combined, these two military installations generate an annual payroll approaching \$1 billion dollars for local workers in the civilian and military workforces at both bases; and

WHEREAS, Defense Department contracts in Riverside County and its twenty-eight cities combined for \$5 billion in direct payment from the federal government to nine hundred small business owners, which in turn created thousands of direct and indirect jobs in our region; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Secretary of Defense of the United States of America has specifically requested that another Base Realignment and Closure Commission be authorized in the near future to close military bases across the nation and around the globe; and

WHEREAS, March Air Reserve Base and Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division are assets to the United States Armed Forces and both installations provide unique missions in support of our national security and disaster response that make the bases ideal to be used as national models for military and defense mission; and

WHEREAS, both installations have been reviewed by prior Base Realignment and Closure Commissions resulting in March Air Force Base being reduced to a Reserve Installation and Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division also being impacted adversely; and

WHEREAS, Base Realignment and Closure of the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division, and March Air Reserve Base will adversely impact the economy and the regional economy of Riverside County and its 28 cities; and

WHEREAS, the reuse of lands outside the cantonment area of March Air Reserve Base have not progressed for a variety of reasons related to the Great Recession and lack of capitol availability for financing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of La Quinta, California, as follows:

SECTION 1. The City Council does hereby support the County of Riverside Board of Supervisors and its Office of Military and Defense Services in opposition to another round of Base Realignment and Closure as it relates to Naval Surface Warfare Center and March Air Reserve Base. We respect that our federal representatives in the Senate and the House of Representatives also opposed any cuts, reductions, or realignment of missions and resources assigned to these two installations. Furthermore, the City of La Quinta is also opposed to the elimination or realignment of military and civilian jobs at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division, and March Air Reserve Base. These jobs and missions of the Military Department of the State of California, and the active duty and state and federal reserve forces are assets to the communities they serve and play a leading role in keeping our nation safe and secure.

SECTION 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the La Quinta City Council held on this 16th day of September, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

DON ADOLPH, Mayor
City of La Quinta, California

ATTEST:

SUSAN MAYSELS, City Clerk
City of La Quinta, California

(CITY SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

WILLIAM H. IHRKE, City Attorney
City of La Quinta, California

